

Message Text

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12

ACTION SS-25

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3126

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 3773

EXDIS

ANKARA FOR THE SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PFOR, XG, PARM

SUBJECT: CSCE, CBM'S: UK TEXT ON "VOLUNTARY BASIS"

REF: GENEVA 3634

1. AFTER MEETING WITH SOVIET AMBASSADOR MENDELEVITCH, UK DELEGATION CHIEF HILDYARD INFORMED US ON MAY 22 THAT SOVIETS ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT UK TEXT IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL, SUBJECT TO TWO AMENDMENTS, AND SUBJECT TO CONDITION THAT YET TO BE AGREED OPERATIVE TEXT GIVING NATURE OF COMMITMENT WOULD NOT NULLIFY CONCEPT OF VOLUNTARY BASIS IN UK'S PREAMBULAR APPROACH.

2. SOVIET AMENDMENTS ARE THAT "INDISPENSABLE" SHOULD BE REPLACED BY "ESSENTIAL" IN THIRD PREAMBULAR CLAUSE; AND THAT "THEREFORE" SHOULD BE DROPPED FROM FOURTH PREAMBULAR CLAUSE, SO THAT THIS LAST CLAUSE WOULD READ "RECOGNIZING THAT THIS MEASURE, DERIVING FROM POLITICAL DECISION, RESTS UPON A VOLUNTARY BASIS."

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH WE ARE UNCERTAIN WHAT NATURE
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OF COMMITMENT THE SOVIETS WOULD CONSIDER AS NULLIFYING

THE VOLUNTARY BASIS, WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT SOVIETS COULD
BE PERSUADED TO ACCEPT A TRANSITIONAL CLAUSE AT END
OF PREAMBULE MAKING CLEAR THAT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS
CONSTITUTE RESOLUTIONS AND NOT AGREEMENTS, AND THAT
THEY COULD THEN ACCEPT "WILL" IN SUBSEQUENT OPERATIVE
TEXT. IF SO, US AND SOVIET POSITIONS WOULD BE CONSISTENT
AND WE BELIEVE OTHERS COULD BE BROUGHT INTO A
GENERAL CONSENSUS ON NATURE OF COMMITMENT. DALE

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